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USDA

DALLAS, TEXAS

Club News

FEBRUARY 1959

VOLUME X NO. IV

TRAFFIC HOLDS TRAINING SCHOOL

Traffic Management Division has completed another Training Program for Supervisory Personnel, 2 hour classes each Thursday, starting October 23, 1958, through January 15, 1959. Division Chiefs, and others interested in hearing one or more of these discussions attended.

Starting off on home base, our first speakers were chosen from Commodity Office. Though Mr. Wanner, Chief, Field Operations was to have led off, unfortunate circumstances which were beyond our control caused this meeting to be postponed, the date to be announced later.

On October 30, Mr. C. W. Polson, Chief, Commodity Operations Division, spoke to the class explaining operations of that Division and their relationship with Traffic Management Division functions. His talk was most interesting and very enlightening, giving to each of us a broader knowledge of operations prior to Traffic's participation in the handling of loading orders, also a closer look into other operations and how they fit together in all phases of the work, including merchandising. (See Traffic Pg 2)

COMMODITY OFFICE LISTS ACTIVITIES



Over-seeing this one vast operation of Uncle Sam's business is career-employee C. H. Moseley, a native Texan from Quanah and a graduate of Colorado College.

Dallas CSS Commodity Office, a field office of the Commodity Credit Corporation, is one of seven of its kind set up in key markets throughout the U. S. to help carry out Uncle Sam's business under the national farm price support program.

Eleven states besides Texas are covered by the Dallas Office, beginning with New Mexico on the west and extending across the country to North Carolina on the east.

While primarily a grain office, the Dallas CSS Commodity Office is responsible for inventory

of rice in all states, except California, and for peanuts nation-wide.

It is the sole responsibility of this office to employ the best business principles in the handling of agricultural products CCC has acquired from farmers under their price support program. CCC is the largest Corporation of its kind in the world, capitalized at one hundred billion dollars with a borrowing capacity of \$14.5 billion.

Responsibilities of efficient management include handling, buying, selling, and storing--responsibilities of ownership vested in the government of surpluses of agricultural products.

Any CSS office by its very existence must work with many divergent groups in carrying on operations of CCC, including warehousemen, grain dealers, rice millers, peanut shellers and crushers, carriers, exporters, and other government agencies. Dallas CSS office is no exception.

It has under contract under the Uniform Grain Storage Agreement 2,150 grain warehouses with a capacity of 804,814,000 bushels; 249 rough rice and 25 milled rice warehouses under the Uniform Rice Storage Agreement with (See CSS Pg 3)

TRAFFIC

Mr. Goodpasture, Chief, Fiscal Division, spoke on November 6, 1958, explaining Fiscal's operations and their relationship between the two Divisions. Information received from this inspiring talk will help Traffic Management Division employees to have a better understanding of why certain duties are performed, what happens to documents after we complete TMD functions, and many other questions that arise from time to time in regard to the Fiscal Division functions in their relationship with TMD.

Thursday, Nov. 13, Mr. L. R. Perkinson, Vice-President of Pearlstone Mill and Elevator Co., Dallas, was guest speaker. We are very grateful to Mr. Perkinson for taking the time from his own busy activities to come to us. Mr. Perkinson discussed Commercial practices in grain operations and sales particularly as they apply to the activities of the sales department as it is related to the Traffic Department concerning rates and transportation services. His message was very informative and knowledge gained will be most helpful to all who attended. His knowledge of rate structures, ocean freight and other waterways used in the transportation of Commodities was shared with us. Other suggestions made, may prove to be of great benefit to Commodity Credit Corporation. Other sessions held are outlined below: 11-20-58

B. B. Garrett, General Freight Claims Agent, St.

Louis-Southwestern Lines Railroad, Tyler, Texas.

Mr. Garrett discussed the principles of Freight Claim Adjustments. 12-4-58

J. R. Tedford, Auditor Revenues Texas & Pacific Railroad, Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Tedford discussed freight accounting and related matters as it might interest us as representing a shipper on both commercial and government bills of lading. He told how this office can cooperate most effectively with carriers in efforts to promote efficiency and understanding. 12-11-58

J. D. Hughett, Chairman Southwestern Motor Freight Bureau, Inc., 4112 San Jacinto Avenue, Dallas, Texas.

Speaker discussed motor carrier operations, how rate changes are brought about, how motor carrier rates compare with rail, etc. 12-18-58

J. F. Jones, Chairman, Texas-Louisiana Freight Bureau, Dallas, Texas.

Speaker told how the Bureau operates with reference to rate procedures, explaining how rates are decided upon and how they are put into effect. 1-15-59

Kenneth P. Tubbs, Manager Transportation Department Dallas Chamber of Commerce Sec., Texas Industrial Traffic League Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Tubbs discussed the traffic work of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce.

* * *

The U. S. has always been known as "The Melting Pot" — But in our time it has

O. V. WELLS ADDRESSES AMS

About 80 Agricultural Marketing Service workers in Dallas and Fort Worth turned out to meet their boss on Dec. 2. They spent an hour with O. V. Wells, AMS Director, Washington, D. C., as he passed through Dallas between appearances at College Station, Texas, and Madison, Wisconsin.

Mr. Wells explained how AMS Divisions and duties are interwoven to perform the wide scope of activities of the service. Those who attended the meeting at the Dallas Power and Light Co. auditorium, report that the short session gave each a clearer picture of how his position fits into the over-all set-up.

On the evening before the plenary meeting, division chiefs and assistants hosted Mr. Wells at a dinner at the Dallas Press Club. Specific problems of each officer were aired during the evening informal round-table seminar.

Taking part in the meetings were personnel from the local AMS offices of Food Distribution, Poultry Inspection, Poultry Grading, Cotton, Fruit and Vegetables, Market News, Milk Marketing, Livestock, Internal Audit, and Marketing Information.

* * *

On January 5 through 7, 1959 the C & I Dallas 8-state area office held its annual Agents' conference in anticipation of another busy year. The conference was attended by Francis J. Major of the Washington C & I Division Office.

* * *

gotten more like a pressure cooker.

CSS

USDA Directors
Hold Meeting

Did
You
Know

By A. H. Allison

capacities of 45,749,000 and 5,887,000 hundredweight respectively; 154 farmers' stock peanut warehouses under Cooperative Agreement with a capacity of 380,372 tons; also 25 cold storage peanut plants under its own supervision with a capacity of 46,000 tons.

Nineteen warehouse examiners inspect these houses periodically. At present, 9 trainees are learning how to do the job.

In inventory at the present time are 178,135,000 bushels grain sorghum, 136,000,000 bu. wheat, 2,000,000 pounds shelled peanuts, 4,000,000 cwt. rough and milled rice, 356,000 bu. oats, corn, and rye, as well as lesser quantities of rosin and turpentine.

Scheduled for export during the year of 1958 were 70,977,000 bu. wheat, 41,225,000 bu. grain sorghum, 9,600,000 bu. barley, 6,330,000 bu. corn, 6,686,000 cwt. rice and 6,000,000 bushels oats.

Around 26,973 tons farmers' stock and 31,810 tons shelled peanuts were sold, the farmers' stock largely for domestic chushing and the shelled for export.

An additional 8,348,000 bushels wheat and corn went into manufacture of flour and corn meal.

To handle movement of commodities for export, a port office is maintained at Houston. This office helps supervise movement of products from Corpus Christi, Galveston, Port

The regular monthly meeting of the directors of the Dallas USDA Club was held January 20 at the Travis Hotel.

Jerry Davis, in the absence of Billy Howell, Treasurer, reported a balance in the Treasury of \$350.79.

The club directors voted to send to Mildred Yeager, in view of her past services to the Club, a cash gift of \$10.00 and our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

A "brainstorming" session was held on ideas to help the Club to achieve its objectives. The following suggestions were made:

1. Hold general meetings of all USDA employees.
2. Encourage attendance of division heads and supervisors at directors' meetings.

Plans were formulated for the preparation of a "U.S. Directory of Dallas County".

It was decided that a general meeting of all USDA members would be held on March 17.

* * *

Arthur, Freeport, New Orleans, Mobile, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge, and Pensacola.

For 1958, loading orders were issued on 237,000 carloads of all commodities for domestic and export sources. About 77,000 carloads went for export.

THAT the Federal Service Examination was reopened under Anno. No. 170 on October 1, 1958 and will close April 23, 1959.

THAT lists established under Anno. No. 25 will be superseded by those eligibles under the NEW announcement.

THAT if you wish consideration you should file NOW to take the new examination.

THAT the lists established will be used by all Federal Agencies for appointments to 60 Career Fields.

THAT there are special jobs in Agriculture such as: economics, statistics, market reporting, writing and editing and inspection work.

THAT to qualify in the examination for GS-5 you must have completed or expect to complete within 21 months a 4-year college course leading to a bachelor's degree; or you must have had 3 years of experience in administrative, professional, investigative, technical or other responsible work which has prepared you to enter into the positions for which this examination is appropriate.

THAT you should file NOW and for further information check with the Civil Service Commission or your own Personnel Office.

* * *

When they talk about a tall, stately girl, what they mean is a long, lanky miss with money.

TO YOUR HEALTH

USDA Employees located in the Merchandise Mart Building: Are you familiar with the services available in the Health Unit? The Health Unit was formerly referred to as the "First-Aid" or "Emergency Room." Now we prefer to think of it as the "Health Unit" and more emphasis is placed on Health Care. Of course, first-aid treatment of even minor wounds is still important and accidents should be reported promptly.

The actual treatment of illnesses is limited since we do not have a physician directly in charge. However, authorization is given for the administration of simple medication for the alleviation of some minor symptoms and disorders. You are advised to come to the Health Unit when symptoms of a cold or sore throat begin. Early treatment might prevent serious developments.

Simple medications are available for mild stomach upsets or indigestion, but remember: Such symptoms can, also, indicate more serious involvements. If you have fever or other symptoms of importance, you may be advised to consult your physician.

Hypodermic injections of medications, such as vitamins, may be given upon written authorization from your physician. A special form may be obtained from the Health Unit for this purpose.

If your doctor advises temporary rest during the day following major surgery or an extended illness, you may, with the approval of your supervisor, rest in the Health Unit for a period not in excess of one hour.

We suggest that you report to the Health Unit if you have had a serious illness or have some existing ailment. It would be helpful to have a record of your condition and the name of your physician in case you should become ill at work and need immediate assistance.

To ALL USDA EMPLOYEES:
The USDA Club is still offering Polio Vaccine injections through the Health Unit. If you still have not received the series of three injections, you are urged to contact the nurse, EXT. 842.

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SAFETY NOTES

"Accidents Will Happen!" is a familiar statement and an accident did happen in editing the USDA Club News last issue. The SAFETY NOTE was not completed so we shall repeat: Be a good office "housekeeper" and prevent accidents. Serious falls can result from such articles as rubber bands, paper clips, or even a slip of paper lying on the floor. Also, coffee or other liquids spilled should be wiped up immediately. Watch these minor things and prevent major accidents.

* * *

A man unable to choose between two evils, often hunts up a third.

PREXY'S CORNER

At the January Meeting of USDA Club Officers it was decided that the latter part of March there should be a general meeting of all USDA Members. Time and place of this stated meeting, as of the date of this paper, has not been established nor has a guest speaker been obtained. The committees are at work on the project and all members will be notified in ample time so that we may expect 100% attendance in the Dallas Area.

It is with much regret that the Compliance and Investigation Division of CSS reports the retirement of two of its members of the investigative staff. James P. McKenney and Will H. Massenburg retired as of January 10, 1959, because of ill health. Both had been advised by their physician that the extensive travel necessitated by their work should not be continued. Mr. McKenney had been with this office for the past 19 years, and Mr. Massenburg since December 1954. Both had rendered valuable service and will be greatly missed.

* * *

After watching the squabbles that often develop in the splitting of estates we can sympathize with the old fellow whose will contained just the following: "Being of sound mind, I spent every cent I had."

FEBRUARY "PLENTIFUL" LIST FEATURES POTATOES AND CANNED PEAS

Potatoes and canned peas
ke the spotlight among
ods on the U. S.
partment of Agriculture's
entiful Foods list for
bruary.

Also expected to be
entiful in the Southwest
eapples, celery, cabbage,
rk, milk and dairy products,
gs, turkey, peanuts and
anut products, walnuts,
ney, and sardines.

Both of the featured
ems are repeats from
mary. Potato crop
timates by the end of
ember were higher than
viously set. The fall
p reached 180,897,000
t.--29 million more
an average.

A big pack of canned
as, plus a large carry-
er, made a total supply
45 million cases.
ality is the best in
ay years.

Apples and walnuts also
e repeat items. Pork
ices already have dropped
nsiderably. And as more
the huge fall pig crop
marketed in February,
rch, and April, home-
kers will find it to
eir advantage to serve
rk often.

Milk Production is
cking up, seasonally,
d egg producers have a
ge laying flock that
ould provide abundant
gs. Supplies of all
zes of turkeys are
pected to be plentiful,
t particularly the
aller consumer sizes.
lifornia sardines are
undant after several
ars of short supply.

Large acreages of winter
celery and cabbage indicate
substantial supplies of these
items. Honey stocks were re-
plenished generously by last
year's good crop.

* * *

WORK ASSIGNMENTS MAY DIFFER FROM JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Commerce Department's house
organ, the "Log" answers a
question frequently asked by
Federal employees:

"Can I refuse to accept
assignments of work because
they are not described in my
official position description?"

"The answer is: Definitely
not." An employee's position
consists of the duties assigned
to him by his superiors. The
position description is not a
prescription of duties. It is
a report. If a position descrip-
tion becomes out of date, it
should be replaced by a new and
current description.

"Details to another position
for a maximum period of 6 months
may also be quite proper. Care
should be taken, however, that
temporary assignments do not
become permanent without being
shown in the official position
description."

* * *

TWO TOP EMPLOYEES LEAVE CSS

Resignation and retirement
have taken two top flight men from
their jobs in CSS.

C. W. Polson, Chief, Commodity
Operations Division, resigned
Jan. 26, and A. E. Morris, Chief,
Traffic Management Division, re-
tired Jan. 31.

Present Acting Chiefs are Arnold
E. Ferguson and Grant E. Ramsey,
respectively.

Polson, or "Chet",
now is with Continental
Grain Co., Kansas City,
Mo., and "The Colonel"
may be found at his
home at 5934 Vanderbilt.

"Chet" had been with
USDA the past 20 years
having been employed in
county, state AAA and
FMA offices in Pawnee
County and Manhattan,
Kan., and Washington,
D. C., and in Dallas
with CSS since 1952.

A strong advocate of
selling grains in world
commerce, "Chet" has
helped put across to
the trade and others the
advantages of merchan-
dising the best quality
of these grains,
particularly high-
protein wheat, because
they bring more money.
He will work primarily
in the futures market
in his new job and
perhaps his friends soon
will see him in action
in the "pit" in Kansas
City.

"The Colonel", (U. S.
Army ret.) dean of all
traffic people in USDA,
is a nationally-recog-
nized traffic expert,
whether the mode be
rail, truck, jet or
liner. Long years of
traffic service in USDA,
the Army and private
industry, plus a law
degree in which he
specialized in transporta-
tion, have helped gain
"The Colonel" this
national recognition. He
retired after 18- $\frac{1}{2}$ years
of federal service, 13
years with USDA and 5- $\frac{1}{2}$
with the military.

These gentlemen have
two things in common:
Both are avid numisma-
tists and philatelists.

SUPPORT YOUR USDA CLUB



THE USDA CLUB IS YOUR CLUB. CONTACT YOUR USDA
CLUB REPRESENTATIVE AND TELL HIM WHAT YOU WANT
THE CLUB TO DO. YOUR INTEREST AND SUGGESTIONS
WILL GIVE THE CLUB LIFE AND VITALITY.